

Sanpete County Economic Events

Updated 4/15/03

Skyline Drive Technology has received 8(a) certification from the Small Business Administration in Washington. As a result of this designation, Skyline Drive Technology will have greater access to federal contracting procurement marketplace opportunities. *Gunnison Valley News, 3/17/03*

Roughly \$1 million in funds to beef up efforts against metamphetamine labs was approved in a spending bill recently passed by Congress. Some of the money will be used to help Sevier, Wayne and Sanpete counties purchase remote meth detection equipment. *Deseret News, 2/14/03*

A new store, LuckyBuck has opened in Centerfield. The store sells food, furniture, and wholesale items. *Gunnison Valley News, 2/14/03*

The Gunnison City Council authorized the issuance of \$77,000 in Water Revenue Bonds. The bonds will be used to help finance the upgrading of the city's secondary water system. *Gunnison Valley News, 1/31/03*

Construction of the new wing of the Gunnison Valley Hospital is complete. The \$4.5 million project adds 19,200 square feet to the existing hospital. Remodeling work will continue in areas of the facility that are currently occupied. *Gunnison Valley News, 1/16/03*

No opposition was voiced at Fairview City's final public hearing about its proposed microfiltration waste treatment plant. The city announced that funding was secured for the \$7.6 million project. Construction could begin as early as this fall and be finished by 2005. *Salt Lake Tribune, 1/16/03*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Agency approved a low interest loan of \$500,000 and a grant of \$810,000 for Manti's culinary water project. The project will also be funded through a low-interest loan of \$1.05 million from the Utah Drinking Water Board and \$264,00 from Manti City. The project should be completed in mid-2004. *Salt Lake Tribune, 1/14/03*

The Manti-Ephraim airport has received a \$153,000 grant from the Utah Department of Transportation to fence the facility against wildlife. *Salt Lake Tribune, 12/24/02*

A group of Manti area residents has raised \$50,000 toward a new city swimming pool. The target is \$300,000. *Salt Lake Tribune, 11/25/02*

Wasatch Academy in Mt. Pleasant has broken ground for a \$3 million student center and dining hall. The new building will be at the south end of the campus next to the old

gymnasium, which eventually will be converted to a performing arts center. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 11/5/02

Rural Utah counties preparing budgets for next year may face cutbacks in federal PILT funds. Since 1977, the federal government has provided "payment in lieu of taxes" funds to counties with large tracts of nontaxable federal land. The federal budget for 2003 has yet to be approved, and President Bush wants to cut PILT money by 23.5 percent. Utah is fifth in the nation in PILT funding, behind California. In 2002, Utah received more than \$16 million. *Deseret News*, 10/15/02

South Sanpete and North Sanpete School District will share a \$2.5 million grant which will allow the districts to track the seventh grade class, to see what they can do to improve their post-graduate success. *Gunnison Valley News*, 9/20/02

Utah ranchers, hit hard by drought, will soon receive millions of dollars in immediate federal aid. The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced it would release \$752 million in cash to relieve drought-stricken livestock in 37 states. Utah is one of seven states that has declared a statewide drought disaster, and therefore, will qualify for a large share of the money. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 09/20/02

Destruction from a powerful tornado, which touched down in Manti, is expected to top \$1 million, making it the second-most costly tornado in Utah history. Gov. Michael Leavitt does not plan to seek federal aid for Manti tornado costs because federal evaluators have advised the state that the disaster probably would not qualify. *Deseret News*, 9/13/02

Developers have been paying visits to a number of Sanpete County municipalities to pitch a plan for a garbage-powered energy plant. The plant would burn used tires and other waste to power turbines to generate electricity. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 9/10/02

The South Sanpete School District is cutting back on some of the amenities for its new district building after bids came in higher than expected. Savings include elimination of a higher-end Atlas front brick façade (\$62,000), parking lot expansion (\$50,000) and a boardroom video-electronics package. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 8/22/02

The Community Impact Board has awarded Ephraim \$125,000 in grants and loans to furnish and equip the city's 18,000-square-foot city hall now under construction. *Salina Sun*, 8/9/02

Pleasant Grove-based Westroc has acquired the ready-mixed concrete plants in Sanpete and Sevier counties of Western Rock Products. *Deseret News*, 7/23/02

Plans are underway to construction a new \$70 million short-line railroad running from south of Salina to just west of Levan. Sevier, Sanpete and Juab counties are contemplating setting up a special service district to raise money for the project and spearhead its construction. A feasibility study has been completed and the project

received some funding from Congress to help with environmental impact studies. The federal government's Surface Transportation Board, which has the final say on whether the line gets built, already issued its preliminary approval for the project contingent on completion of the environmental work. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 07/19/02

Representatives from Smith and Sons Meat Packing appeared before the Sanpete County Planning Commission to propose using nearly 315 acres south and east of Centerfield for a meat packing plant. The company would employ approximately 100 people and could eventually hire as many as 150 workers. *Gunnison Valley News*, 7/3/02

The Ephraim City Council has agreed to waive about \$5,750 in city impact and water and sewer connection fees on houses being built by the city's Housing Authority. The Housing Authority, in cooperation with federal agencies and Snow College South, build three-bedroom, single-family homes for about \$95,000.

A community effort is under way to restore the former Manti City Hall. In-kind donations are being sought to help secure grants for the \$150,000 project. When finished, the first floor of the building will contain a tourist information office, a museum and office. The second floor meetin room will be rented to the public for various functions. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 5/23/02

Ground has been broken for the new George S. and Dolores Dore Eccles Performing Arts Building on the Ephraim Campus. Construction of the \$17.5 million building should be completed in January 2004. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 5/23/02